

**MINUTES OF THE
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2008

At a meeting of the **Planning and Economic Development Committee**, held Monday, July 21, 2008, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Vosburg-Chair, Brdak, Brown, Camphous-Peterson, DeSaele, DiMaria, Drolet, Duzyj, Gielegthem, Mijac, Rengert, Roberts and Crouchman (ex-officio).

Absent and excused was Haggerty.

Other Commissioners Also Present:

Commissioner Slinde

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Vosburg called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Rengert, supported by Duzyj, to adopt the agenda, as presented.
The Motion Carried.

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by Rengert, to approve the May 6, 2008 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

**PRESENTATION ON DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BUSINESS CLIENT, JB CUTTING TOOL (MOUNT CLEMENS)**

Mr. Bob Madigan and Mr. Jason Friedman from the Planning and Economic Development (PED) Department gave a brief introduction about JB Cutting.

Ms. Debra Behring from JB Cutting gave a brief history of their company and spoke about their future plans. JB Cutting is a manufacturer of wood component parts. They service the cabinet and closet industry with ready to assemble cabinets, thermofoil doors, drawer fronts, and fixtures. Over the last four to five years their growth has been about 24%. They were awarded the MI 50 for 2008 and have been nominated for the Crain's Small Business Award. They were just awarded a tax abatement. They plan to invest over \$2 million and add at least six to 10 more employees in the next few years. She is grateful for the PED Department's assistance.

MOTION

A motion was made by Camphous-Peterson, supported by DeSaele, to receive and file the presentation on JB Cutting Tool of Mount Clemens.

A discussion ensued with Ms. Behring about the number of employees they have, how much they are paid, their starting rate of pay, and how many square feet they are adding.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

PRESENTATION FROM DETROIT METRO VISITORS TOURISM AND CONVENTION BUREAU

Committee members were provided with a DVD case entitled, Macomb County Tourism Discover the D TV Segments & Webcasts. Inside the case were three DVDs. Disc 1 and 2 contained Discover the D TV Segments. Disc 3 contained Webcasts from visitdetroit.com.

On display were six large poster boards: 1) Calling All Shopping "D"-vas, 2) Visit Detroit, 3) Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, Grosse Pointe Shores and Andiamo Restaurant, Warren, 4) Selfridge Military Air Museum, Battle of Brits Car Show at Freedom Hill, and The Octagon House in Washington Township, 5) Tillson Street, Romeo and Car City Records, St. Clair Shores, and 6) Desperado's, Mount Clemens.

Present from the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau were Mr. Larry Alexander, President & CEO and Ms. Cheryl Bartholomew, Manager, Information Technology.

Mr. Alexander recalled at last month's meeting of the Legislative and Administrative Services Committee, that commissioners had numerous concerns. The Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau took the concerns very seriously. He spoke about what they are putting in place to address those concerns.

Ms. Bartholomew gave a PowerPoint presentation. It consisted of a rolling video: visitdetroit.com. She spoke about what this Web site features.

Mr. Alexander spoke about their targeted audience and how Macomb County can be showcased.

MOTION

A motion was made by Camphous-Peterson, supported by DeSaele, to receive and file the presentation from the Detroit Metro Visitors Tourism and Convention Bureau. **The Motion Carried.**

AUTHORIZATION FOR FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION EASEMENT NAMING RIGHTS

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, SUPPORTED BY GIELEGHEM, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ALLOW NAMING RIGHTS (SUBJECT TO BOARD REVIEW AND APPROVAL) FOR DONATIONS OF MONEY FROM PRIVATE DONORS FOR A PROPOSED FLOODPLAIN CONSERVATION EASEMENT. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

APPOINTMENT TO CITY OF STERLING HEIGHTS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, SUPPORTED BY RENGERT, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF STEPHEN N. CASSIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TO THE STERLING HEIGHTS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM BEGINNING JULY 1, 2008. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cassin informed commissioners that the application for the SmartZone was submitted on June 30th. The state has until November 1st to notify them.

He then held up a magazine that showcases Macomb County.

He then informed commissioners that his department is communicating with key stakeholders for the film industry. What is needed is a one-stop shop here in Macomb County. He has a whole list of what Hollywood needs, such as hotel rooms, database of pictures, et cetera.

Lastly, he said that they have a meeting tomorrow on the M-59 Corridor.

MOTION

A motion was made by Brown, supported by DiMaria, to receive and file the report from the Executive Director of Planning and Economic Development on departmental activities.

Commissioner DeSaele suggested that Mr. Cassin speak with Ms. Cindy Donahue on acquiring historical pictures.

Chair Vosburg called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gerard Santoro from the PED Department invited commissioners to attend the Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy meeting on August 25th at Public Works.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by DeSaele, to adjourn the meeting at 10 a.m.
The Motion Carried.

Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter